

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 152570  
ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-05 SP-02  
SS-15 ICA-20 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 /106 R

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P 151945Z JUN 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY  
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY  
USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA PRIORITY  
USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 152570

USSALTTWO/CTB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: JUNE 15 ROUNDUP: PRESS ITEMS OF ARMS CONTROL  
INTEREST

LONDON FOR AMB/EX, SOFIA FOR AMBASSADOR, HELSINKI FOR ASAT

1. CHARLES CORDDRY OF BALTIMORE SUN SAID LATEST SOVIET  
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PAGE 02 STATE 152570

PROPOSAL FOR EAST-WEST TROOP CUTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE COULD  
LEAVE WARSAW PACT WITH NUMERICAL SUPERIORITY OVER NATO.  
QUOTING AUTHORITIES, CORDDRY SAID "PROPOSAL ALSO WOULD  
SHARPLY CURTAIL WITHDRAWAL OF SOVIET TANKS FROM REGION  
WITHOUT ANY COUNTERVAILING REDUCTION IN NUMBERS OF U.S.  
NUCLEAR-ARMED AIRCRAFT AND MISSILES THAT WOULD BE WITH-  
DRAWN ... AT FIRST, WELL-INFORMED CONGRESSIONAL SOURCE

SAID YESTERDAY, EASTERN PROPOSAL CAUSED SOME 'ELATION' IN CARTER ADMINISTRATION AND WAS 'BALLYHOOD AS MAJOR CHANGE' IN POSITION FOR MOSCOW -- AN ACCEPTANCE OF NUMERICAL EQUALITY BETWEEN MILITARY FORCES OF NATO AND WARSAW PACT. WEST GERMANY FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALLY ENTERED SERIOUS RESERVATIONS ON DAY PROPOSAL WAS RECEIVED, AND SIMILAR COMPLAINTS NOW ARE VOICED HERE. WITHOUT RESOLUTION OF FUNDAMENTAL STICKING POINTS, AUTHORITIES SAID, PROPOSAL CANNOT LEAD TO PARITY IN EAST-WEST FORCES. THERE HAS BEEN SOME 'MODIFICATION' OF EASTERN POSITION, DEFENSE DEPART-

MENT SAID IN ONE OF FEW PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON ISSUE, BUT 'NEW EASTERN POSITION STILL DOES NOT MEET WESTERN CONCEPT OF WHAT COLLECTIVE CEILING OUGHT TO BE.'" NATO COUNTRIES CONTEND WARSAW PACT STRENGTH IS ABOUT 930,000 TROOPS IN CENTRAL EUROPE, NATO STRENGTH IS 780,000. THEREFORE, WARSAW PACT, IN SEVERAL STAGES, WOULD HAVE TO CUT BACK BY 230,000 TROOPS TO GET DOWN TO NEGOTIATING GOAL OF 700,000 TROOPS ON EITHER SIDE. NATO WOULD HAVE TO CUT 80,000. SOVIET UNION, HOWEVER, CONTENDS THAT TWO ALLIANCE STRENGTHS ARE SUBSTANTIALLY SAME NOW. IT CREDITS WARSAW PACT WITH 805,000 TROOPS. "UNTIL THERE CAN BE AGREEMENT ON BASIC DATA ABOUT FORCES ON EITHER SIDE, AUTHORITIES SAID YESTERDAY, THERE CANNOT BE AGREEMENT ON MUTUAL AND BALANCED REDUCTIONS THAT WOULD LEAD TO PARITY OF FORCES," CORDDRY REPORTED.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 STATE 152570

2. BERNARD WEINRAUB OF NEW YORK TIMES SAID INDIAN PRIME MINISTER DESAI ASSERTED THAT U.S. COULD NOT EXPECT COUNTRIES SUCH AS INDIA TO ACCEPT NUCLEAR FACILITY INSPECTIONS AND SAFEGUARDS WHILE U.S. REMAINED FREE TO EXPAND ITS OWN ATOMIC ARSENAL. IN SPEECH AT NATIONAL PRESS CLUB YESTERDAY, DESAI SAID "SAUCE MUST BE SAME WHETHER FOR GANDER OR FOR GOOSE." WEINRAUB OBSERVED THAT DESAI'S LOW-KEYED CRITICISM CAME AS HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE APPROVED CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S PLAN TO CONTINUE SALES OF ENRICHED URANIUM TO INDIA, DESPITE HIS GOVERNMENT'S OBJECTION OF SAFEGUARDS REQUIRED BY LAW OF ALL RECIPIENTS.

3. DAVID WILLIS OF CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, REPORTING FROM MOSCOW, SAID KREMLIN SEES NEW DIPLOMATIC ACTIVISM OF POST-MAO LEADERS IN CHINA AS AIMED DIRECTLY AT ITS OWN POSITIONS IN AFRICA, ASIA AND THIRD WORLD GENERALLY. SOVIETS, WILLIS POINTED OUT, VIEW CHINA AS DEFINITELY GROWING MILITARY THREAT, SEEKING SOPHISTICATED WEAPONRY INCLUDING AIRCRAFT, ANTI-TANK MISSILES AND NAVIGATIONAL EQUIPMENT FROM BRITAIN, SWITZERLAND, BELGIUM, WEST GERMANY,

DENMARK, ITALY, SWEDEN AND ELSEWHERE. SOVIETS ARE "ENORMOUSLY CONCERNED," WILLIS ADDED, THAT CHINA'S INTERESTS "RUN MORE AND MORE PARALLEL TO THOSE OF U.S., AND THAT IN LONG RUN THIS CAN ONLY SPELL TROUBLE, SQUEEZING MOSCOW FROM BOTH SIDES."

4. WASHINGTON POST PUBLISHED ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORT THAT AMERICAN CONSERVATIVE UNION, CHARGING THAT U.S. NEGOTIATORS ARE CAVING IN TO SOVIET DEMANDS, HAS DESCRIBED PLANS FOR NATIONAL EFFORT TO TURN PUBLIC SENTIMENT AGAINST SALT AGREEMENT NOW BEING DRAFTED. ACU, WHICH CLAIMS 300,000 MEMBERS, HAS CHOSEN SALT AS ITS PRINCIPAL POLITICAL AND

FUND-RAISING ISSUE. CENTERPIECE OF ANTI-SALT CAMPAIGN WILL  
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PAGE 04 STATE 152570

BE HALF-HOUR FILM TITLED "SOVIET MIGHT--AMERICAN MYTH: U.S. IN RETREAT," FEATURING REP. PHILIP CRANE, ACU CHAIRMAN; SEN. BARRY GOLDWATER AND OTHER SPOKESMEN FOR CONSERVATIVE CAUSES. FILM CONTAINS FOUR FUND-RAISING APPEALS FOR ACU. MONEY WILL BE USED IN PART TO PAY FOR TELEVISION TIME. CRANE SAID 39 STATIONS IN CALIFORNIA, TEXAS AND FLORIDA WILL SHOW FILM IN JULY. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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